

The Rites of the Period of Purification and Enlightenment

- Brought about by the celebration of the Rites
 - (Rite of Sending and Rite of Election)
 - Scrutinies
 - First (Samaritan Woman at the Well)
 - Second (The Man Born Blind)
 - Third (Lazarus)
 - Presentations
 - Creed
 - Lord's Prayer
 - (Rites of Preparation)

Begins with the Rite of Election

- Closes the period of Catechumenate Proper
- The Church makes its “election” based on:
 - The testimony of catechists
 - The testimony of godparents
 - The catechumens reaffirmation
- Prerequisites
 - Conversion in mind and in action
 - Developed sufficient acquaintance with Christian teaching
 - Intention to receive the Sacraments

Structure of the Rite of Election

- Homily
- Presentation of the Catechumens
- Affirmation by the Godparents [and the Assembly]
- Invitation and Enrollment of Names
- Act of Admission or Election
- Intercessions for the Elect
- Prayer over the Elect
- Dismissal of the Elect

The Scrutinies

- 141 The scrutinies are rites for self-searching and repentance and have above all a spiritual purpose. The scrutinies are meant to uncover, and then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. For the scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. These rites, therefore, should complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all.

Structure of the Scrutinies

- Readings
- Homily
- Invitation to Silent Prayer
- Intercessions for the Elect
- Exorcism
- Dismissal of the Elect

The Presentations

- 147 With the catechumenal formation of the elect completed, the Church lovingly entrusts to them the Creed and the Lord's Prayer, the ancient texts that have always been regarded as expressing the heart of the Church's faith and prayer. These texts are presented in order to enlighten the elect. The Creed, as it recalls the wonderful deeds of God for the salvation of the human race, suffuses the vision of the elect with the sure light of faith. The Lord's Prayer fills them with a deeper realization of the new spirit of adoption by which they will call God their Father, especially in the midst of the Eucharistic assembly.

Structure of the Presentation of the Creed

- Readings
- Homily
- Presentation of the Creed
- Prayer over the Elect
- Dismissal of the Elect

Structure of the Presentation of the Lord's Prayer

- Readings
 - Gospel Reading (Presentation of the Lord's Prayer)
- Homily
- Presentation of the Creed
- Prayer over the Elect
- Dismissal of the Elect

Period of Purification and Enlightenment

- A period of more intense spiritual preparation
 - More interior reflection than in catechetical instruction
 - Intended to purify the minds and hearts of the elect
 - Gives them a deeper knowledge of Christ the Savior
- Coincides with Lent
 - Liturgy of Lent reminds us of
 - Baptism already received for the faithful
 - Baptism about to be received for the Elect